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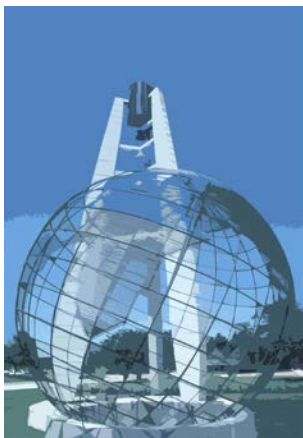
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Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

September 16 – 20, 2002

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Happiness is good health and a bad memory." - Ingrid Bergman

Board of Trustees Approves Tuition and Fee Increases

GSU Trustees, at their September 13 meeting, approved increases in undergraduate tuition of \$6 a credit hour and graduate tuition of \$7 a credit hour. The new rates, effective with the Winter Trimester, are \$108 an hour for undergraduate course and \$118 an hour for graduate courses. In addition, the trustees approved raising mandatory fees from \$87 to \$96 a trimester – a 10 percent increase. It is the first time fees have been increased in as long as 12 years in some cases. The trustees also approved a new strategic academic enhancement fee of \$10 a credit hour, which is capped at 12 credit hours. The new fee is also effective with the Winter Trimester. Stuart Fagan, GSU president said, "The state cut our appropriated funds six percent from FY02 levels. We also face the likelihood of a mid-year rescission of five percent of more – another \$1.3 million. Given the economic realities, we had no choice but to increase tuition and fees modestly in order to protect the quality of our academic programs and maintain the level of student services. But even with these increases, Governors State remains one of the most affordable public universities in the state." He added, "Our commitment is to remain affordable and to provide a quality education for working adults."

Commitment to Excellence

At its second annual retreat on September 5th, the University Assessment Committee began working on an assessment progress report, which will provide a detailed account of the effectiveness of GSU's academic programs. The report is required by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) and is due June 30, 2003. Rebecca Wojcik, chair of the Assessment Committee, said, "Assessment of student learning outcomes strengthens the quality of GSU academic programs and enhances our accountability to a variety of stakeholders." Assistant Provost Eric Martin added, "Even if the NCA didn't require us to do assessment, we would do it on our own to ensure we're on track with our strategic plan." During the retreat, committee members also provided consultation and feedback to program assessment coordinators on their 2000-2001 Assessment Reports.

Evidence of Excellence

Ten faculty members are being recognized for their scholarship, teaching, and service to the community. They are Robert Donaldson and Carl Stover from the College of Business and Public Administration; Deborah Holdstein and Mary Lanigan from the College of Arts and Sciences; Tony Labriola from the Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services; Ralph Bell, Kyusuk Chung and William Yacullo from the College of Health Professions; Jon Carlson and Julia Yang from the College of Education. These men and women are the best of the best," said Provost Paul Keys. A reception honoring this year's distinguished faculty will be held in the lobby of The Center for Performing Arts, from 1-3 p.m. on September 23rd.

Circuit Rider to the Rescue

The South Metropolitan Regional Leadership Center (SMRLC) at GSU has received a \$120,000 grant from the Woods Fund of Chicago to fund the Circuit Rider City Manager Project. The grant will be used to hire a professional who will provide technical assistance to the staffs of Dixmoor, Ford Heights, Phoenix and Robbins village governments. Services include help in grant writing, budgeting and financial management techniques. The project responds to a request from the mayors of these four villages for help in improving leadership skills as well as securing grants to update and modernize operating systems and procedures. Ronald Bean, director, SMRLC said: "We're excited about this project. We were able to put this together because of the support we received from the Foundation staff and the College of Business and Public Administration."

The Family Development Center will open October 7

The Family Development Center will open its doors to children on October 7. The GSU Smart Start Program will offer parent education, infant-toddler playgroups and pre-kindergarten activities. The GSU Childcare Center will be relocated to the FDC. Childcare will be offered for children ages 3 to 12, from 7:45 a.m. – 7:45 p.m. Call 708-235-7330 for more information.

Dreams at Ground Zero

Professor Paul Schranz' photo exhibit commemorating September 11 was a notable part of the university's observance. The following is a photo called "*Dreams at Ground Zero*" presented with commentary from Schranz:

QuickTime™ and a
Photo - JPEG decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

"When I realized last year the personal devastation and ravage that took place in the collapse of the twin towers, I tried to imagine all of the dreams lost in that moment. What came out of it was this digital montage. The figure, even though buried by metal and concrete forms, is depicted at peace. An artist tries to make sense of things through their work. At best, this is just a personal attempt at comprehending the incomprehensible events of that day."

GSUScholarship Sets Sail

Dean Roger K. Oden (CAS) is a contributing writer and editor of *African Perspectives: Sustainable Development, Governance Globalization*. The book, recently published by Heinrich Boell Foundation, was distributed in August at Earth Summit 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Dr. Oden's article, "Africa at the Onset of the Twenty-First Century: Facing the Development Challenges," advances the thesis that it is critical at this time to foster an understanding of the impact a new wave of globalization is having on third world development in general and on Africa in particular. Oden fully addresses this subject in an upcoming book entitled *Understanding Development in an Era of Globalization*. It's scheduled to be published by Ashgate later this year. Dr. Adriela Fernandez (CAS) is the coauthor.

Disfrute! (Enjoy) Latino Heritage Month

A seven-piece mariachi band filled the Hall of Governors with traditional Mexican music from 4 – 6 p.m. on September 16 in celebration of Latino Heritage Month. Twenty-three flags from Latin American, Spanish-speaking countries, and the U.S. have been hung in the hall in recognition of the diversity of the Latino culture. The celebration will continue with a movie series on September 25 and 26 in Engbretson Hall. *Tortilla Soup* will be shown on the 25 followed by *Open Your Eyes* on the 26. The films will be shown at noon and 3 p.m. For information on other activities planned for Latino Heritage Month, contact Marlene Castellanos on extension 7059.